

My name is Teresa Hamm, and I am a resident of North Dartmouth, Massachusetts.

I am filing this comment today, as I am very, very concerned about altering the existing rules governing the open Internet.

The Internet has become a basic communication need for personal, safety and business use. At one time, this access could have been considered a luxury, but that is no longer the case. Without Internet access, individuals are isolated from government, consumer and safety information.

In Dartmouth, we have one ISP provider – Comcast. For Internet access and television, I pay almost \$200 per month. If I want to access other communication (telephone) or entertainment/news options, I have to pay up to \$150 for these services.

I am retired and my income decreases every year because of increasing health care costs, taxes and basic living expenses.

Because of my long history with Comcast, and the actions they have taken over the years to limit access and increase their fees, there is no doubt in my mind that given the option to block, throttle, or charge additional fees for access to previously bundled services they will do so.

Changing this regulation will not increase competition – that is a myth. Eliminating the regulation of these practices will be a boon for ISP corporations and a blow to consumers.

I am an educated person, technologically competent, and I have been extremely frustrated dealing with Internet speed and the response of my existing provider. I strongly object to allowing ISP corporations to prevent start-ups, or other service providers from competing on an even playing field. If allowed to do so, there is absolutely no incentive for them to play fair.

Please do not change this open access – for individuals with limited means, educational institutions and public access – this will discriminate and isolate our most vulnerable citizens.